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**International Management Solutions, LLC using specialized equipment to build INL nuclear archive**

IDAHO FALLS — With the help of a local small business, Idaho National Laboratory is creating the National Nuclear Archives. It will be a central repository for scientific articles and technical information related to nuclear materials, technology, processes and the peaceful use of atomic power. The archive will make a vast amount of technical information available worldwide to learning institutions, industry and the public.

International Management Solutions, LLC (IMS), a Hispanic, women-owned, small business owned by three former INL employees, Bertha Jones, IMS president, Lydia Gonzales, vice president for Operations, and Berniece Hansen, vice president for Human Resources, hosted an open house Dec. 4 at the INL Research Library to display the company's remarkable new optical document processing and storage capabilities.

IMS signed a Mentor-Protégé agreement with INL in 2007. INL's Small Business Program signed the agreement through the U.S. Department of Energy Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization.

Under that agreement, IMS is creating an electronic database of INL nuclear research documents to make records accessible to researchers quickly and with full word-search capabilities.

Dana Storms, INL manager of Small Business Programs, said, "This program is one form of outreach that shows INL's commitment to promoting and supporting small business development and helping these businesses become successful."

In February 2008, IMS purchased the digitizing document scanning equipment and software with a \$220,000 loan from the Regional Development Alliance. IMS has the only such privately-owned equipment in the Intermountain West.

The digitizer is well suited to efficiently meet the records management needs of several industries such as medical, legal and libraries. The digitizer can process documents without disassembling them from the binding; the content can be delivered in a variety of mediums including Web, CDs, computer hard drives, e-book or print on demand; and the system can convert documents in foreign languages into multiple formats include Word, Text, PDF, XML and will be text searchable.

Using this state-of-the-art technology manufactured by Kirtas Technology Incorporated, IMS will scan nearly 300,000 paper reports and documents. A key feature of the scanner is that it automatically turns the pages of documents, allowing up to 2,400 pages to be digitized every hour.

IMS, which had three employees when it signed the agreement with INL, now has five with four trained as certified Kirtas technicians. IMS hopes to use its expertise to open its services to other government agencies and private businesses. In addition to INL, IMS has provided services to NorthWind INC. and Bechtel BWXT Idaho, both in Idaho Falls.

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